

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-10 SSO-00 CCO-00 INRE-00

PRS-01 RSC-01 NSC-07 NSCE-00 /044 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 224556

LIMDIS/TOSEC 86

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH ELECTION RESULTS

1. AS OF 2300 HOURS EDT (0400 GMT), PROJECTIONS BASED UPON AVAILABLE RETURNS IN THE BRITISH GENERAL ELECTION PREDICT A SMALL, BUT WORKABLE, MAJORITY FOR HAROLD WILSON'S LABOR PARTY. LABOR IS EXPECTED TO CAPTURE 322 OF THE 635 SEATS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS WITH 42.4 OF THE POPULAR VOTE. THE CONSERVATIVES ARE PROJECTED AT 275 SEATS (35.6 OF THE POPULAR VOTE), LIBERALS 11 SEATS (17.8) AND OTHERS, INCLUDING THE SCOTTISH NATIONALISTS, 27 SEATS (4.2). WHILE THE FINAL TALLY WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE BEFORE SATURDAY MORNING WHEN ISOLATED CONSTITUENCIES ARE FINALLY COUNTED, IT APPEARS THAT LABOR WILL HAVE AN OVERALL MAJORITY OF SIX TO TWELVE SEATS, PROBABLY TOWARD THE LOWER SIDE OF THIS RANGE. WILSON IS NOT EXPECTED TO MAKE ANY MAJOR CABINET CHANGES.

2. FINAL RETURNS WILL BE COMMUNICATED AS RECEIVED AND A
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SUGGESTED MESSAGE OF-CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE-SECRETARY TO

FONSEC CALLAGHAN WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, POLITICAL PARTIES, TOSEC 86
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE224556
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CLFLOYD:MBW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740289-0300
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741052/aaaabrzv.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRITISH ELECTION RESULTS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, UK, (WILSON, HAROLD)
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005